

TIMES-VIRGINIAN
IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT
APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA
ESTABLISHED 1892
ALVIN H. ROBINSON, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
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NATIONAL EDITORS ASSOCIATION
1015 Madison Ave., N. Y. C.
PRESS

EDITORIALS

CONGRATULATIONS!

We wish to congratulate Appomattox stores for their fine Christmas decorations. They are easily the best ever seen here during the holiday season. If you have not yet paid a visit to local stores to look over the Christmas offerings, do so now.

YEARLY BASIS

The Times-Virginian would like to suggest to our state government that automobile license plates once again be issued on a calendar year basis. New plates should be required as of January 1 each year. The practice of letting each year's tags extend well over into the following year is a hang-over from the depression years, when motorists were granted extensions of time in which to buy licenses. Cars are now used in so much interstate traffic that it is confusing for the date on the plate to be meaningless. It is perhaps too late to require motorists to get 1948 licenses by January 1, 1948, but plans should be made to make the validity of 1948 tags end on December 31, 1948.

THE HIGH COST OF GOVERNMENT

From New York Herald-Tribune

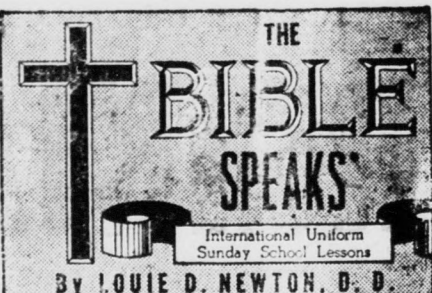
In the generation the total cost of government in the United States has risen 900 per cent, the per capita cost more than 650 per cent. Even with the vast expenditures of war largely ended we are spending in this peacetime year 1947-48 about ten times as much as in the prewar year 1940. No other nation on earth could survive such skyrocketing of its household expenses, and even we are approaching a point where swollen Federal taxation and Federal spending jeopardize the economic balance and health of the nation.

The \$37,000,000,000 the government is spending this year is more than the total expenditures for the three-year period of World War I, which amounted to \$30,000,000,000 plus. It is almost 19 times the government's expenditures in 1917.

The fantastic cost of government today is largely due to the aftermath of war, but not entirely. Three items account for more than half the budget total—national defense \$9,500,000,000; veterans' service and benefits, \$7,000,000,000; debt service, \$5,000,000,000. This item, which represents the inexorable cost of financing the debts of World War II on top of the persistent deficits of the New Deal is more than the entire cost of the Federal government in 1933. In addition to these three grim and monstrous, irreducible items total \$22,500,000,000, costs of German occupation, foreign relief and refugee assistance, apart from the Marshall Plan—amount to another \$1,000,000,000.

Deducting all costs of the war and its aftermath, there still remain some \$15,000,000,000 of "ordinary expenditures." This unprecedented sum provides for a greater variety of peacetime functions and services than we have ever known. It provides crop subsidies and price control, radio monitoring, rural free delivery, weather maps, salaries of Congressmen, forest rangers and customs men. It provides, at a cost of \$1,800,000,000 a more vigilant national interest in health, social welfare and security. In the monumental ant hill of Federal activity are a total of 2,924,000 employees, of whom 32,740 are required to keep track of wage records and social security affairs in the Federal Security Administration and more than 6,000 in the Civil Service Department to handle the affairs of the vast army of civilian employees.

There can be no question that the government exercises greater vigilance for the health and welfare of the individual, performs more useful services than ever before. The question is, that we continue indefinitely these costly extensions of government activity? If American citizens are willing to divest themselves of some of these extra services and functions, where shall we



SCRIPTURE: Revelation 17: 1-18
40: 1-10; 2 Peter 1: 12-15; 2
PEYOTHE: READING: Revelation
3: 1-12

Courageous Loyalty

Lesson for December 14, 1947

OPEN your Bible to Revelation, and read the first seven chapters. Then you will be ready for Acts 16:14-40, and 1 Peter 4:12-19, and 5:9, 7. These

Scriptures form the basis of a study for Sunday on Loyalty. Under Persecution. Christians are not promised an easy time, but they are assured of victory for every time of need. This lesson, if carefully pondered, will fortify one's faith and send us forth renewed in courage and Christian poise for these days of discipline.

Dr. Newton

How a Song Helped

"HUMBLE yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you." 1 Peter 5:6, 7. That is a splendid watchword for every boy and girl. A memory verse suggested for Sunday is found in Proverbs 17:22, and it reads like this: "A cheerful heart is a good medicine."

Have you watched some Christian in affliction—how he or she could bless every passerby? It was because that person possessed the "cheerful heart." And each of us may have that precious possession, if we remember Mark 11:22, "Have faith in God."

Happy Behind Prison Bars

PAUL and Silas are pictured as happy in that dark dungeon. There is a statement to challenge every cynic, every doubting Thomas. Only the grace of God can make men happy under persecution. Paul declares in Romans 1:16, "I am not ashamed of the Gospel." Aye, he was not ashamed to preach the Gospel to the little damsel on the streets of Jerusalem, nor was he ashamed to go to the prison for the sake of the Gospel.

Best of all, Paul and Silas were sustained in their sorrowful plight by the consciousness that God was with them—that he always keeps his word.

I venture the prediction that the fortitude of Paul and Silas in the night of persecution did more to impress the Christian religion upon Jerusalem than any sermon ever the eloquent Paul ever uttered. We, too, can witness for Christ as we face difficult situations.

It was far more difficult to be a Christian in the first century than it is in the twentieth century. By which I mean that the early Christians were few in number and without any backing of public opinion. They were despised as the lowly followers of the crucified carpenter of Nazareth. Today, Christians are acknowledged as the best citizens in every community.

Even so, there are tests for us—tests that will be too much for human courage and loyalty. If we are true to the teachings of Jesus as they relate to everyday life, we shall need that same endurance which the Christians at Smyrna possessed, else our discipleship will shame the name of our Lord.

Who were they? "These are they which came out of Babylon, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Loyalty under persecution is dependent absolutely upon the life-giving power of the blood of the Lamb.

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed. For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid."

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Evergreen

Evergreen, Dec. 8.—Mrs. Earl Harris, who fell recently and knocked her arm out of place, is improving.

Those who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Ferguson lately include Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Charnault, Mrs. Ruth Jennings and son, Douglas, Mrs. W. R. Baldwin and two sons, George and Harry, Mrs. Howard Glover and three daughters.

Mrs. Sam White and three children, of Lynchburg spent a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Staples.

Mrs. Carl Womack is ill at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Charnault and Mrs. Matt Ferguson, of Lynchburg called to see Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glover Sunday. Also Paul Ferguson and two children called in the same home.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Jennings and daughter spent last week with his mother, Mrs. Sam Jennings. He enjoyed a game hunt while here.

Mrs. Mary Sullivan, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover.

Jennings Ferguson, who has been sick for the past week is reported to be better.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Cralle spent a few days last week with their

daughter, Mrs. Dan Clapp in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hodge visited Mr. and Mrs. Junior Blackwell, spent Sunday with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Green Garrett.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Paulett were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Harvey.

Mrs. Eddie Warriner is ill at this writing. Also, Mrs. George Glover.

Evergreen, Dec. 9.—Archie LeGrande, Jr. spent Thanksgiving holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. LeGrande.

The sudden death of Mr. Carol Womack was a shock to the community.

Evergreen is squelching this week, as everyone is killing hogs.

Rocks News

Roca, Dec. 8.—Farmers are busy saving winter wood, killing hogs and stripping tobacco.

Mr. W. R. Moore and family have returned to Montgomery, W. Va.

Mrs. Percy Carter spent a few days in Roanoke recently.

The Home Demonstration Club met with Mrs. John Ranson for the December meeting last Monday.

Toby Inge was helping Robert Roush around home last Monday.

Mrs. Holmes Inge, Sr., of Appomattox was visiting her daughter, Mrs. Harry Ranson a few days recently.

John Henry Ranson called to see James Taylor while one night recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Royal Seay and

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